08:30 – 09:30  Registration

Moderator: Christopher Burns

09:30 – 11:00  Opening Session: Empowering women through international trade – challenges and solutions

Building on the progress made since the 1st International Forum on Women and Trade in 2017, this session will discuss the challenges to empower women through international trade as well as suggest the potential solutions in their areas of work. It will analyse the complex relationship between trade and gender equality by taking stock of what has been achieved and what remains to be accomplished.

Welcome speech by Cecilia Malmström, European Commissioner for Trade

- Roberto Azevêdo, Director General, World Trade Organization
- Guy Ryder, Director General, International Labour Organisation
- Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- Christian Ewert, President, amfori

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 – 13:00  Session 2: Barriers for women to trade in Europe and beyond

The session will present the the first-ever study analysing barriers for women who work in international trade in the European Union and beyond. It will then discuss how the identified barriers compare to those faced by women engaging in international trade in other parts of the world.

Keynote speech by Arancha González, Executive Director, International Trade Centre

- Carolina Valdivia Torres, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Chile
- Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade And Development
- Alexandra Bugailiskis, Ambassador of Canada to Italy
- Julia Nielson, Deputy Director, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD

13:00 – 14:30  Networking Lunch
14:30 – 16:00  Session 3: Enhancing opportunities for women in trade – what role for business?

Building on the identified barriers for women in trade in the previous session, business representatives will share their experiences with women-led company participation in trade and reflect how businesses can enhance opportunities for women entrepreneurs to export.

Keynote speech by Sabine Weyand, Director General for Trade, European Commission

- Luisa Santos, Director for International Relations, BusinessEurope
- Catharina Ringborg, Company Director and co-founder, Tracy of Sweden
- Denise Stubbs, Director, Thokozani Wines and Hospitality and HR Executive of Diemersfontein and Thokozani, South Africa

COFFEE BREAK

16:30 – 18:00  Session 4: Looking for synergies – The role of other policy areas in empowering women

Positive changes in trade policy need to be accompanied by meaningful changes in other policy areas. This session discusses potential synergies and how decision-makers can effectively design policies that take into a broad range of solutions to gender inequality.

Keynote speech by Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development

- Ville Skinnari, Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade of Finland
- Pierre Heilbronn, EBRD, Vice President, Policy and Partnerships
- Tanya Cox, Director, CONCORD Europe
- Arup Banerji, Regional Director for EU Countries, World Bank

18:00 – 18:10 Closing Remarks

Cecilia Malmström, European Commissioner for Trade

18:10 – 19:00 Networking drink